MMR_0415 Brett Overholtzer

Bret Overholtzer's Missouri-Kansas-Texas, St. Louis Subdivision

Located in a 15 ft by 25 ft basement train room, this N-scale single deck, operation-oriented layout incorporates a separate 400-car staging yard to facilitate the "beyond the basement" concept.

The MKT's traffic from St. Louis to Kansas City and Texas is simulated over nearly four scale miles of mainline track, with emphasis on freight, coal unit trains, and grain traffic.

Operations on the MKT, St. Louis Subdivision simulate an enhanced version of the traffic that would have existed in 1984. You can expect to see multi-unit freight and coal trains, some autorack and pig trains, and lots of local switching action.

You'll run primarily Whitman green and yellow locomotives, with a smattering of leased power in the consists. As the elite operators say, "No sound, no layout", so the mighty MKT has sound-equipped locomotives.

An enthusiastic operating crew of eight can complete a nominal three-hour operating session with ease, running 17 over-the-road trains, up to five locals, and a dedicated Union Pacific switch job.

You can bid for the dispatching job and follow the trains across the faux-digicon-esque track schematic on the computer monitor. Or you can run the yard, and kick the local trains out to serve the industries. Or you can relax in the crew lounge and watch train videos with the Superintendent. The choice is yours!

During operating sessions, we keep the atmosphere loose and fun, with an emphasis on the social aspects of the hobby. The credo of the Mighty MKT: “Start slow and taper off”.

Brett has his own Webpage for this layout.

Brett has had multiple articles in Model Railroad Craftsman Magazine.

Brett is a Member of the Mid-Continent Region.